

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LISBON 03405 100929Z

12

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 H-03 PRS-01 PA-04 INR-11 NSC-07

DRC-01 RSC-01 /074 W

----- 031849

R 100718Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0232

USIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL MUNICH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LISBON 3405

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJ: BOARD FOR INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING: RFE RE-
TRANSMISSION FACILITIES IN PORTUGAL

1. ABSHIRE, BARTHELEMY, AND WALTER ACCOMPANIED BY PAO CALLED
AUGUST 8 ON MINISTER OF MASS COMMUNICATIONS, MAJOR JOSE SANCHES
OSORIO.

2. ABSHIRE WISHED TO ACQUAINT MEMBER OF GOP WHO HAS
RESPONSIBILITY FOR RFE FACILITY (RARET) WITH ROLE AND
FUNCTION OF BOARD OF INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING. ABSHIRE SAID
RFE PROGRAMMING IS CONSISTENT WITH DETENTE POLICY OF U.S.
GOVERNMENT. (COMMENT: ABSHIRE ALSO HOPED TO ELICIT EXPRESSION
OF INTENT REGARDING FUTURE OF RFE FACILITIES IN PORTUGAL.)

3. OSORIO WAS THOROUGHLY INFORMED ON SUBJECT. HE SAID
HE HAD VISITED RARET SITE WITHIN LAST THREE WEEKS. HE
ACKNOWLEDGED NEW CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH PORTUGAL FINDS ITSELF
IN THE PRESENT CLIMATE OF DETENTE. HOWEVER, HE SAID HE
WANTED TO MAKE CLEAR THAT PORTUGAL IS A PART OF WEST EUROPE
AND A MEMBER OF NATO AND THAT THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT
HAS NO INTENTION OF CHANGING ITS POLICY WITH RESPECT TO THE
WESTERN ALLIANCE. HE SAID THAT THE FACT THAT PORTUGAL FINDS
ITSELF IN A MORE OPEN DIPLOMATIC WORLD SIGNIFIES NO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LISBON 03405 100929Z

INTENT WHATSOEVER TO FORM ANY ALLIANCE WITH THE EAST EUROPEAN

COUNTRIES. HE SAID THAT THE REVOLUTION CARRIED OUT BY THE ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT WAS NOT A POPULIST REVOLUTION NOR DOES THE MFA DESIRE A SOCIALIST REVOLUTION. HE SAID THAT HIS REMARKS WERE MEANT TO PROVIDE CONTEXT FOR THE DISCUSSION OF RARET.

4. WITH RESPECT TO RARET PROBLEMS IN PORTUGAL, OSORIO SAID ONE CONCERNS WORKERS APPREHENSION ABOUT THEIR LABOR CONTRACT; THE OTHER, THE COMPOSITION OF THE PORTUGUESE MEMBERSHIP ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

5. OSORIO IMPLIED THAT BREAD AND BUTTER ISSUES COULD BE WORKED OUT ONCE THE ISSUE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS RESOLVED. (COMMENT: IT IS CLEAR TO ABSHIRE, BARTHELEMY, AND WALTER THAT CHANGING THE COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD IS AN URGENT MATTER AND SHOULD BE DONE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.)

6. EMPLOYEES OF RARET HAVE BEEN CONCERNED SINCE 1971 OVER THE UNCERTAINTY OF RFE FINANCING. THEIR WAGE AND BENEFIT DEMANDS ARE THUS IN PART PSYCHOLOGICAL AND TIED TO FEELINGS OF JOB INSECURITY. PRESENT AGREEMENT EXPIRES IN APRIL 1975. EMPLOYEES BEING PRESSURED BY WORKERS IN OTHER UNIONS TO ORGANIZE AND ACT. OSORIO FEARS UGLY INCIDENTS COULD ARISE--EVEN DRASTIC ACTION OF CUTTING OFF TRANSMISSION OF THE PROGRAMMING IS NOT INCONCEIVABLE.

7. OSORIO ASSURED ABSHIRE OF HIS MINISTRY'S FULL SUPPORT AND THAT OF THE GOVERNMENT. HE COUNSELLED SPEED IN TAKING DECISIONS.

8. COMMENT: OSORIO IS BRIGHT, YOUNG (33), MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT WHOM WE BELIEVE TO HAVE BEEN ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL ARCHITECTS OF THE APRIL 25 COUP. HE IS CONSIDERED A LOYAL SUPPORTER OF PRESIDENT SPINOLA. HE GAVE US TO UNDERSTAND THAT GOP WANTS RARET TO CONTINUE IN PORTUGAL.

9. WE ARE UNLIKELY TO FIND A MORE SYMPATHETIC MEMBER OF THE GOP WITH WHOM TO NEGOTIATE A NEW AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE FUTURE OF RARET. IN VIEW OF ABSHIRE AND EMBASSY, IT IS IN THE U.S. INTERESTS THAT THE BOARD BE CHANGED SPEEDILY AND THAT RARET BE AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE ON LABOR DEMANDS AND OPEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 LISBON 03405 100929Z

NEGOTIATIONS TO RENEW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. ON BEHALF RFE, RALTER CONCURRED IN THIS ASSESSMENT.

10. MEMCON BEING POUCHED.
POST

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RADIO BROADCASTING, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LISBON03405
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740219-1032
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740857/aaaabxhb.tel
Line Count: 112
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 MAY 2002 by garlanwa>; APPROVED <28 FEB 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BOARD FOR INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING: RFE RE- TRANSMISSION FACILITIES IN PORTUGAL
TAGS: PFOR, RFE
To: STATE MUNICH
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005